



Educational Considerations

Volume 17 | Number 1

Article 2

9-1-1989

Comments from the Guest Editors

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Recommended Citation

Thurston, Linda P. and Barrett-Jones, Kathleen (1989) "Comments from the Guest Editors," *Educational Considerations*: Vol. 17: No. 1. <https://doi.org/10.4148/0146-9282.1557>

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Comments from the Guest Editors . . .

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Not since the January, 1984 issue of *Exceptional Children* has an entire journal been dedicated to rural special education. We are excited to present this special issue of *Educational Considerations*. Those of us who are dedicated to rural education are often frustrated by the lack of consideration of rural issues by the field in general; however, it is gratifying to note a new sense of purpose in rural special ed-

ucation (DeYoung, 1987). These papers are examples of that fresh sense of purpose. Each article builds on the positive aspects of rural education and presents fresh strategies and suggestions for providing quality education for rural students with special needs. The authors are actively advocating for rural special education in their respective schools, universities, and service agencies. Each brings a special perspective and expertise to our collection. Together, the content of this issue of *Educational Considerations* is a gold mine full of riches discovered by some in the special education field. This wealth of information must be carefully mined and made available to all educators, because, as Judy Smith-Davis states, rural and small schools are inventing and using gold nuggets that can help solve some of the problems of general education. ACRES (American Council on Rural Special Education), and its journal, *Rural Special Education Quarterly*, are an excellent resource for information on rural special education. The wealth is there and we challenge you to dig!

References

- DeYoung, A.J. (1987). The status of American rural education research: An integrated review and commentary. *Review of Educational Research*, 57, (2)1, 123-148.